## What is claimed:

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Claim-1. (amended) An increased stiffness of a vehicle structure of a motor vehicle comprising

a main vehicle body (20) having at least one door aperture (20.1, 20.1B, 20.1T, 20.1h, 20.1x) therein;

a mating vehicle door (8, 8B, 8T, 8h, 8x), generally representing a tailgate- (8T), sliding side-, cargo-, liftgate door, trunk cover (8x), hood (8h) or vehicle door (8, 8B), whose door frame, hingedly secured to that vehicle body (20) for pivotal movement between an open and a closed position, is reinforced by door-frame members, which are at least two impact beams (1, 7, 1B, 7B), spanning the door aperture, door-reinforcement members elements and at least one window-guide channel (6, 6B, 6.1, 6.2, 6.1B, 6.2B, 6.1a, 6.2a, 6.1aB, 6.2aB) to guide and receive a window pane, is hingedly secured to that vehicle body (20) for pivotal movement between an open and a closed position;

vehicular couples, consisting of

the vehicle door & a vehicle roof (17),

the vehicle door & a side rail (18),

the vehicle door & a pillar and

the vehicle door & a flange (21, 21T, 21h, 21x) of the vehicle body (20),

at least one of which is equipped with interengaging assemblies, each of which includes a key, arranged to one vehicular member of the vehicular couple, facing the other vehicular member, and a mating receptacle located thereon; and

interengaging assemblies, each of which includes a key arranged to one of the reinforcing members of that door frame, facing a vehicular member of that vehicle body, and a mating receptacle located thereon; and

adjusting mechanisms to reduce the clearances between the adjustable keys and the mating receptacles to <u>permissible minimum</u>-tolerances, when the vehicle door is closed, to ensure the <u>an</u> engagement of the interengaging assemblies and the connection of the vehicular couples consisting of

vehicle door & vehicle roof (17),

vehicle door & side rail (18),

vehicle door & pillar and

vehicle door & flange (21, 21T, 21h, 21x) of the vehicle body (20);

thus distributing impact energy to the respective all-vehicular members, lowering stress thereof and preventing passengers from ejection being hurled-out of the motor vehicle in a real-world the event of an accident.

Claim 2. (amended) An increased stiffness of of the vehicle structure according to claim 1, further comprising

a main vehicle body (20) having at least three door apertures (20.1, 20.1B, 20.1T, 20.1h, 20.1x), two of which are series-connected, therein;

three mating vehicle doors (8, 8B, 8T, 8h, 8x), each of which generally representing a tailgate—(8T), sliding side—, cargo—, liftgate door, trunk cover (8x), hood (8h) or vehicle door (8, 8B), whose door frame, reinforced by at least two impact beams (1, 7, 1B, 7B), spanning the door aperture, elements and at least one window guide channel (6, 6B, 6.1, 6.2, 6.1B, 6.2B, 6.1a, 6.2a, 6.1aB, 6.2aB) to guide and receive a window pane, is

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hingedly secured to that vehicle body (20) for pivotal movement between an open and a closed position; interengaging assemblies, each of which includes a key arranged to one of the reinforcing members of that door frame, facing a vehicular member of that vehicle body, and a 5 mating receptacle-located thereon; at least one extension member pillar-reinforcement member (17.3, 18.3, 23), mounted to a common pillar of the series-connected juxtaposed vehicle doors of a vehicle side, to receive at least two engaging members of the interengaging assemblies, which, when the juxtaposed doors are closed, engage with the keys-mating engaging members thereofto-10 the receptacles, located on the respective door-frame members adjacent to that common pillar located on the respective reinforcing members of those doors, when closed, for exploiting the constrained deformation thereof to prevent them from popping open in the event of an accident; and whereby in the real-world accident those juxtaposed doors and the corresponding 15 vehicular members are in a state of constrained deformation which is exploited to prevent those juxtaposed doors from popping openadjusting mechanisms to reduce the clearances between the adjustable keys and the mating receptacles to minimumtolerances, when the vehicle doors are closed, to ensure the engagement of the interengaging assemblies and the connection of the vehicular couples consisting of 20 vehicle door & vehicle roof (17). vehicle door & side rail (18). vehicle-door & pillar. series-connected vehicle doors & common pillar and vehicle door & flange (21, 21T, 21h, 21x) of the vehicle body (20) 25 thus distributing impact energy to all vehicular members, lowering stress thereof and preventing passengers from being hurled out of the motor vehicle in the event of an accident. Claim-3. (amended) An The increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure according 30 to claim 1, comprising wherein a main vehicle body (20) having at least one door aperture (20.1, 20.1B, 20.1T, 20.1h, 20.1x) therein; a mating vehicle door (8, 8B, 8T, 8h, 8x), generally representing a tailgate-(8T), sliding side-, cargo-, liftgate (loor, trunk cover (8x), hood (8h) or vehicle door (8, 8B), whose 35 door frame, reinforced by at least two impact beams (1, 7, 1B, 7B), spanning the dooraperture, elements and at least one window-guide channel (6, 6B, 6.1, 6.2, 6.1B, 6.2B, 6.1a, 6.2a, 6.1aB, 6.2aB) to guide and receive a window pane, is hingedly secured to that vehicle body (20) for pivotal movement between an open and a closed position; interengaging assemblies, each of which includes a key arranged to one of the reinforcing 40 members of that door frame, facing a vehicular member of that vehicle body, and a mating receptacle located thereon; and adjusting mechanisms to reduce the clearances between the adjustable keys and the mating receptacles to permissible tolerances, when the vehicle door is closed, to ensure the engagement of the interengaging assemblies and the connection of the vehicular couples, at least one thereof has a plurality of interengaging assemblies operating operate at least 45 at two planes, consisting of vehicle door & vehicle roof (17), vehicle door & side rail (18).

vehicle door & pillar and vehicle door & flange (21, 21T, 21h, 21x) of the vehicle body (20)

thus distributing impact energy to all vehicular members, lowering stress thereof and preventing passengers from being hurled out of the motor vehicle in the event of an accident. thus enormously cutting assembly time associated with allowing small tolerances larger than the permissible tolerances.

Claim 4. (amended) An The increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure according to claim 2, comprising wherein the interengaging assemblies of the vehicular couple operate in at least at two planes.

- a main vehicle body (20) having at least one door aperture (20.1, 20.1B, 20.1T, 20.1h, 20.1x) therein;
- a mating vehicle door (8, 8B, 8T, 8h, 8x), generally representing a tailgate—(8T), sliding—side—, cargo—, liftgate (loor, trunk cover (8x), hood (8h) or vehicle door (8, 8B), whose door frame, reinforced by at least two impact beams (1, 7, 1B, 7B), spanning the door aperture, elements and at least one window—guide channel (6, 6B, 6.1, 6.2, 6.1B, 6.2B, 6.1a, 6.2a, 6.1aB, 6.2aB) to guide and receive a window pane, is hingedly secured to that vehicle body (20) for pivotal movement between an open and a closed position;
- interengaging assemblies, each of which includes a key arranged to one of the reinforcing members of that door frame, facing a vehicular member of that vehicle body, and a mating receptacle located thereon; and

adjusting mechanisms to reduce the clearances between the adjustable keys and the mating receptacles to permissible tolerances, when the vehicle door is closed, to ensure the

Claim 65. (amended) AnThe increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure according to claim 1, wherein the interengaging assembly of vehicle door & vehicle roof (17) is provided with at least one transverse girder (17.2a, 17.2d, 17.2e, 17.2f, 17.2g), connecting the pillar of one vehicle side to the pillar of the other vehicle side consists of at least two hooks (15.6) mounted to the window-guide channels (6.1a, 6.2a, 6.3, 6.4 or 6.1aB, 6.2aB, 6.3B, 6.4B); and

a mating rod (17.1d) arranged along that vehicle roof and mounted to two transversegirders (17.2e, 17.2f, 17.2g) connecting the pillars of both vehicle sides to each other-

Claim 6. (amended) An The increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure according to claim 15, wherein the interengaging assembly of vehicle door & vehicle roof (17) consists of

- at least two hooks (15.6), serving as the receptacles, are mounted to the window-guide channels (6.1a, 6.2a, 6.3, 6.4 or 6.1aB, 6.2aB, 6.3B, 6.4B) of the vehicle door; and a mating rod (17.1d), serving as the key, is arranged along that vehicle roof and mounted to two-the transverse girders (17.2e, 17.2f, 17.2g) connecting the pillars of both vehicle-sides to each other.
- Claim 7. (amended) An The increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure according to claim 16, wherein the interengaging assembly of vehicle door & side rail (18) consists of at least two hooks (15.6), serving as the receptacles, are mounted to the window-guide channels (6.1a, 6.2a, 6.3, 6.4 or 6.1aB, 6.2aB, 6.3B, 6.4B) of the vehicle door; and

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	another mating rod (17.1d), serving as the key, is arranged along theat side rail and mounted to two at least one transverse girders (17.2e, 17.2f, 17.2g), connecting the pillars of both vehicle sides to each other.
5	Claim 8. (amended) An The increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure according to claim 1, wherein the interengaging assemblies of series connected vehicle doors & vehicle roof (17) and series connected vehicle doors & side rail (18) consist of
	at least eight hooks (15.6), serving as the receptacles, are mounted to the eorresponding window-guide channels (6.1a, 6.2a, 6.3, 6.4 or 6.1aB, 6.2aB, 6.3B, 6.4B) of the vehicle
10	door; and two a mating rods (17.1d), serving as the key, is arranged along theat vehicle roof and side rail and mounted to three at least one transverse girders (17.2e, 17.2f, 17.2g), connecting all-the pillars of both vehicle sides to each other.
15	Claim-9. (amended) AnThe increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure according to claim 15, wherein the adjustable interengaging assembly of vehicle door & pillar, whereto the door hinges are fastened, consists of
20	a-the key (15.1) is bolted to the an intersection region of the pillar and vehicle roof, which is reinforced by a plate (17.1c) and transverse girder (17.2d), connecting the pillars of both vehicle sides to each other; and
	a-the mating hole is arranged to the window-guide channel (6.1a, 6.2a, 6.1aB, 6.2aB) of the vehicle door.
25	Claim 10. (amended) An The increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure according to claim 15, wherein the adjustable interengaging assemblies of vehicle door & vehicle roof consist of
	a-the key (15.2a, 15.2), are bolted to an element (6.11) rigidly attached to the respective window-guide channel (6.1a, 6.2a, 6.3, 6.4, 6.1aB, 6.2aB, 6.3B, 6.4B) of the vehicle door, and a plurality of keys (15.2), bolted to the respective window-guide channels;
30	and the mating holes are arranged to the vehicle roof (17), reinforced by a plate (17.1, 17.1a) and the transverse plate girder (17.2a) connecting the pillars of both vehicle sides to each other.
35	Claim 11. (amended) An The increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure according to claim 15, wherein the interengaging assemblies of vehicle door & side rail consist of
	a plurality of the keys (15.2, 15.4, 15.4a) are mounted to the respective window-guide
40	channels (6.1a, 6.2a, 6.3, 6.4, 6.1aB, 6.2aB, 6.3B, 6.4B) of the vehicle door; and the mating holes arranged to the vehicle roof (17), reinforced by a plate (17.1a) and the
	transverse girders, and to the side rail (18), reinforced by a side-rail reinforcement
	member (18.1, 18.1a) and transverse girders (18.2), connecting the pillars of both vehicle sides to each other.
45	the side rail (18) reinforced by an element (18.1, 18.1a).

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Claim-12. (amended) AnThe increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure according to claim 1, wherein the interengaging assemblies of vehicle door & vehicle roof and vehicle door & side rail consist of a plurality of the keys (15.2, 15.4, 15.4a) are mounted to the respective window-guide channels (6.1a, 6.2a, 6.3, 6.4, 6.1aB, 6.2aB, 6.3B, 6.4B) of the vehicle door; and the mating holes are arranged to the side rail (18), reinforced by a side-rail reinforcement member (18.1, 18.1a) and transverse girders (18.2), connecting the pillars of both vehicle sides to each other. the vehicle roof (17), reinforced by the plate (17.1a), and to the side rail (18), reinforced by an element (18.1, 18.1a). Claim-13. (amended) AnThe increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure according to claim 1, wherein the adjustable interengaging assemblies of vehicle doors & flange (21) of the vehicle body (20) consist of a plurality of the keys (30, 32, 35) are bolted to the reinforced flange (21) of the vehicle body (20); and the mating holes are arranged to the housings (6.5, 6.5B), rigidly attached to the windowguide channels (6, 6B), retaining the door-reinforcement members (6.6b, 6.7b, 6.8) and the impact beams (7, 7B), respectively. Claim 14. (amended) An The increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure according to claim 1, wherein the key (15.6), adjustable from outside the motor vehicle, comprises a bolt (15.21), a number of spacers (15.22), a washer (15.24), a nut (15.25) and a hook (15.6) with interior diameter  $(d_1)$  and gap  $(s_1)$ . Claim-15. (amended) AnThe increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure according to claim 14, wherein the key, adjustable from outside the motor vehicle, comprises a bolt (15.14), a large washer (15.13) with outer diameter (D), a number of spacers (15.12) and a sleeve (15.11), both have a total length (l) and an outer diameter ( $d_R$ ) when assembled, where the length of the key is adjusted by removing or adding the spacers or replacing the sleeve with one having an appropriate length, and the outer diameter thereof is adjusted by replacing the large washer with one having an appropriate outer diameter and the spacer and sleeve are replaced by ones having an appropriate outer diameter... Claim 16. (amended) An The increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure according to claim 15, wherein the sleeve (15.11) of the key with exterior diameter (d) is governed by the equation (D  $\geq$  d  $\geq$  d<sub>R</sub>), where (D) is the exterior diameter of washer (15.13) and (d<sub>R</sub>) is the diameter of spacer (15.12) and sleeve. Claim-17. (amended) AnThe increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure according to claim 15, wherein the front region of washer (15.13) has radial teeth.

Claim-18. (amended) An The increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure

according to claim 1517, wherein the washer is an integral part of the bolt.

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Claim-19. (amended) AnThe increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure according to claim 1, wherein both ends of the U-shaped window-guide channel (6, 6B), facing the lower vehicular member-portion of the vehicle body (20), and an upper portion of that window-guide channel, facing the upper portion vehicular member of the vehicle body (20), accommodate the engaging members of the interengaging assemblies. Claim 20. (amended) An The increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure according to claim 19, wherein both ends of the respective stiff U-shaped window-guide channel (6, 6B) are connected to each other by a window-guide member (6.4, 6.4B). Claim 21. (amended) An The increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure according to claim 1, wherein the window-guide channels (6.1, 6.2, 6.1B, 6.2B) are rigidly attached to the respective stiff window-guide members (6.1a, 6.2a, 6.1aB, 6.2aB). Claim 22. (amended) AnThe increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure according to claim 14, wherein the adjustable interengaging assemblies of vehicle door & pillar, whereto the vehicle door hinges are fastened, consist of the holes are arranged to the common pillar of the juxtaposed vehicle doors, reinforced by the pillar-reinforcement member (23); and the mating a plurality of keys (313, 34, 36) are bolted to a retaining respective doorreinforcement members (6.6a, 6.8), each of which is rigidly attached to the windowguide channel (6, 6B); and impact beams (1, 1B, 7, 7B); and mating holes arranged to the pillar reinforced by an extension member (23). Claim 23. (amended) AnThe increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure according to claim 2, wherein the adjustable interengaging assemblies of series connected vehicle doors & common pillar are defined by the at least one pair of keys (15.3, 15.3a) are bolted to a pair of both legs of the upper Ushaped extension member pillar-reinforcement member (17.3), mounted to of the common pillar, reinforced by a plate (17.1b), arranged along the vehicle roof (17) and attached rigidly thereto and to a transverse girder (17.2c), connecting the common pillars of both vehicle sides to each other; and the mating holes are arranged to the respective both-window-guide channels of the juxtaposed series-connected-vehicle doors-adjacent to that common pillar. Claim 24. (amended) An The increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure according to claim 2, wherein the adjustable interengaging assemblies of series connected vehicle doors & common pillar are defined by at least one pair of the keys (15.5, 15.5a) are bolted to a pair of both-legs of the lower Ushaped extension member pillar-reinforcement member (18.3) of mounted to the common pillar, reinforced by a side-rail reinforcement memberan element (18.1b), arranged along the side rail (18) and attached rigidly thereto and to a transverse girder (18.2), connecting the common pillars of both vehicle sides to each other; and the mating holes are arranged to the respective both-window-guide channels of the juxtaposed series-connected vehicle doors adjacent to that common pillar.

Claim 25. (amended) An The increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure according to claim 24, wherein a belt ease casing (26) is accommodated in the lower U-shaped extension member pillar-reinforcement member (18.3).

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Claim-26. (amended) An The increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure according to claim 3, wherein the adjustable interengaging assemblies of the vehicle door (8) & the pillar, operatinge in at least two planes, are defined by in which a plurality of the keys (33, 34) are bolted to the window-guide channel (6) and a plurality of keys (34), bolted to a retaining the door-reinforcement members (6.7a), rigidly attached to the window-guide channel (6) and impact beams (1, 7), respectively; and the mating receptacles are arranged to the reinforced pillar.

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Claim 27. (amended) An The increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure according to claim 3, wherein the adjustable interengaging assemblies of the vehicle door (8, 8B) & the pillar, whereto the door frame is hingedly secured, operating operate in at least three planes, in whichare defined by

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a plurality of the keys (15.1, 30, 31, 35, 36) are rigidly arranged to the reinforced pillar, whereto the door frame is hingedly secured, and a plurality of keys (30, 31, 35, 36), rigidly arranged to the reinforced flange (21) of the vehicle body (20); and the mating receptacles are arranged to the retaining door-reinforcement members (6.6a, 6.8), a housings (6.5, 6.5B) and the window-guide channel (6.1a, 6.2a), respectively.

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Claim-28. (amended) AnThe increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure according to claim 43, wherein the interengaging assemblies of the vehicle door (8, 8B) & the vehicle roof (17), operating operate in at least four planes, are defined by in which the a plurality of keys (15.2, 15.2a, 30, 32, 35, 37) are rigidly arranged to the respective window-guide channels (6.1a, 6.2a, 6.3, 6.4, 6.1aB, 6.2aB, 6.3B, 6.4B) and at least two keys (30, 32, 35, 37), rigidly arranged to the reinforced flange (21) of the vehicle body (20), respectively; and

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the mating receptacles <u>are arranged</u> to the reinforced vehicle roof (17) and that window-guide channels, respectively.

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## Claim 29 (cancelled)

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An increased stiffness of vehicle structure according to claim 4, wherein the interengaging assemblies of connecting vehicular couples, operating in many planes, are defined by a plurality of keys (15.1 to 15.7, 30, 32, 35, 37) rigidly arranged to the reinforced pillar, reinforced vehicle roof, reinforced side rail and reinforced flange of vehicle body, respectively; and the mating receptacles arranged to the reinforcing members of vehicle doors, respectively.

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Claim 3029. (amended) An The increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure according to claim 51, wherein a rear-door member (6.5C), whose contour is adapted to the a door-contour of a rear portion of an outer panel of the rear vehicle door, is rigidly attached to the window-guide channel (6B) and the impact beams (1B, 7B).

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Claim 3130. (amended) An The increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure according to claim 3029, wherein the adjustable interengaging assemblies consist of

the a plurality of keys (37) are bolted to the rear flange (21) of the vehicle body (20), reinforced by a flange-reinforcement member an element (21.4B, 21.6B, 21.5B); and the mating holes arranged to the rear-door door-contour-shaped member (6.5C).

Claim-5. -(cancelled).

31. (substitute for the above-listed Claim 5). An increased stiffness of a vehicle structure of a motor vehicle comprising

a main vehicle body (20) having at least one door aperture (20.1, 20.1B, 20.1T, 20.1h, 20.1x) therein;

a mating vehicle door (8, 8B, 8T, 8h, 8x), generally representing a tailgate- (8T), sliding side-, cargo-, liftgate door, trunk cover (8x), hood (8h) or vehicle door (8, 8B), whose door frame, hingedly secured to that vehicle body (20) for pivotal movement between an open and a closed position, is reinforced by door-frame members, which are at least two impact beams (1, 7, 1B, 7B), spanning the door aperture, elements and at least one window-guide channel (6, 6B, 6.1, 6.2, 6.1B, 6.2B, 6.1a, 6.2a, 6.1aB, 6.2aB) to guide and receive a window pane; and

vehicular couples, consisting of

the vehicle door & vehicle roof (17),

the vehicle door & side rail (18),

the vehicle door & a pillar, and

the vehicle door & a flange (21, 21T, 21h, 21x) of the vehicle body (20),

at least one of which is equipped with interengaging assemblies, each of which includes a key, arranged to one vehicular member of the vehicular couple, facing the other vehicular member, and a mating receptacle located thereon; and

adjusting mechanisms, provided for the interengaging assemblies, which operate in at least two planes;

thus enormously saving assembly time resulting from work to adjust large clearances between the adjustable keys and the mating receptacles to small tolerances, when the vehicle door is closed, distributing impact energy to the respective vehicular members, lowering stress thereof and preventing passengers from ejection out of the motor vehicle in a real-world accident.

Claim-32. (amended) AnThe increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure according to claim 31, wherein the adjustable interengaging assemblies of the vehicle door (8, 8B) & the side rail (18), operating operate in at least three planes, in which are defined by

the a plurality of keys (15.4a, 30, 32, 35, 37) are rigidly arranged to the side rail (18) and at least two keys (30, 32, 35, 37), rigidly arranged to the reinforced flange (21) of the vehicle body (20); and

the mating receptacles <u>are</u> arranged to housings (6.5, 6.5B), the window-guide channels (6.1a, 6.2a, 6.3, 6.4, 6.1aB, 6.2aB, 6.3B, 6.4B) and <u>a rear-door door-contour-shaped</u> member (6.5C), whose contour is adapted to a contour of a rear portion of an outer <u>panel of the rear vehicle door</u>, respectively.

Claim-33. (amended) An The increased stiffness of vehicle of the vehicle structure according to claim 531, wherein the interengaging assemblies of the juxtaposed series-

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connected vehicle doors & a common pillar thereof operate, operating in many planes, in which are defined by

a plurality of the keys (15.3, 15.3a, 15.5, 15.5a, 33, 34, 36) are rigidly arranged to the reinforced common pillar and the extension memberpillar-reinforcement members (17.3, 18.3, 23) thereof the common pillar and a plurality of keys (33, 34, 36), rigidly arranged to the reinforcing members of series connected vehicle doors, respectively; and the mating receptacles are arranged to the door-frame members of the juxtaposed vehicle doorsreinforcing members of series connected vehicle doors and the reinforced common pillar, respectively.

## Claim-34. -(cancelled).

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Claim 3334. (amended) An increased stiffness of vehicle structure, characterised by use of metal, compound material, glass fibre reinforced material or non-metal material for material of a key, receptacle, window guide channel, transverse girder, rod, plate and extension member. The increased stiffness of the vehicle structure according to claim 31, wherein the interengaging assemblies of the vehicular couples operate in many planes, in which the keys (15.1 to 15.7, 30, 32, 35, 37) are rigidly arranged to the reinforced pillar, the reinforced vehicle roof, the reinforced side rail and the reinforced flange, respectively; and

the mating receptacles are arranged to the door-frame members.